

REMARKS

The preliminary amendment is being filed to correct multiple dependencies, and to reduce claims fees.

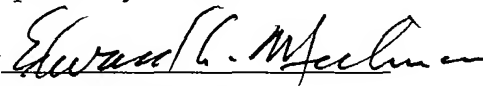
In view of the above amendment, applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

No new matter is added, and the overall scope of the claims have not been changed.

Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Dated: December 26, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Edward A. Meilman

Registration No.: 24,735

DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO LLP

1177 Avenue of the Americas

41st Floor

New York, New York 10036-2714

(212) 277-6500

Attorney for Applicant